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" (*c*) The following equipment, vessels and materials will be received by this State :—

(1) Ten marine diesel-engines (for mechanization of country-crafts).

(2) Three small powered vessels.

(3) One purse seiner.

(4) Two insulated vans.

(5) One ice-*cum*-cold store plant.

(6) A quantity of improved tackles, nets, hooks, nylon thread, etc."

*Maintenance of personal files of Government servants.*

* 510 *Q.*—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state— 11–20 a.m.

(*a*) when and why the personal or confidential file system for employees of Government was introduced; and

(*b*) the category of employees subject to this personal file system?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) The system has been in vogue for a very long time even before 1900.

The object of the system is to have on record all information necessary for correctly assessing the character, merit, ability, etc., of an officer, which will be necessary when considering his case for promotion to higher and responsible posts. Otherwise, promotion to higher posts will have to be made merely by seniority, which is obviously not desirable.

" (*b*) Personal files are maintained for all officers except members of the Madras Last Grade Service."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Cannot this system, outmoded, obsolete and ancient as it is, be replaced by a system more modern, true and also fair to the subordinate employees? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We consider this system good enough for us and it has worked very well as far as we know."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Is this system applicable to judicial officers and if so, are the speeches made by them which often touch upon politics, noted in these sheets? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" This system is applicable to judicial officers also and when they commit a breach of the rules governing their conduct, certainly the fact will be taken notice of."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—" சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இந்த சர்க்கார் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் பற்றி ரகசிய பைல்கள் வைத்திருக்கும் முறையானது வரவேற்கத்தக்கதாக இருக்கிறதென்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் ஆணித்தரமாக பதில் கூறினார்கள். இந்த முறையானது அன்னிய கொதிபத்தியம் இருந்துவந்த காலத்தில். தேசீய இயக்கத்தின்

அலை சர்க்கார் சிப்பந்திகள் மத்தியிலும் பிரவேசித்துவிட்டால் என்ன செய்யவேண்டுமென்று அறிவதற்கு இந்த ரகசிய பைல் முறை கொண்டுவரப்பட்டது. ஆனால் அதே முறையை இப்பொழுதும் நீடிக்கவேண்டிய அவசியம் என்ன ? அதிகாரிகள் மீது எழுதப்படும் குறிப்புகளை அவர்கள் தெரிந்துக்கொள்வதற்குச் சந்தர்ப்பம் உண்டா ? அதற்குச் சமாதானம் சொல்வதற்கும் சந்தர்ப்பம் உண்டா ? அப்படிப்பட்ட ரகசிய குறிப்புகளை வைத்துக்கொண்டு அவர்களுடைய எதிர்கால பிரமோஷன்களைப்பற்றி முடிவு செய்வது நியாயம் என்று சர்க்கார் கருதுகிறதா என்பதை அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்.''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' In regard to adverse remarks, they have got to be communicated to the persons concerned and their explanation obtained. If proper explanation is given, then the adverse remarks are expunged from the file. It is true that the system was introduced by a foreign Government. Though certain systems have been introduced by a foreign Government, yet some are good and some bad. We have to choose the good ones. We think the present system is fairly good. As a matter of fact, remarks with reference to participation in the National movement made in the personal files of officials during the British regime, have stood them in good stead in respect of certain classes of posts and the officers concerned have obtained promotion because of the very fact of participation in the movement.''

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—'' If any superior officer makes any adverse remarks wantonly or out of malice and if the fact is found out, do the Government generally take any action against such officer? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' If malice is proved. certainly action is taken.''

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—'' Is it not a well-known fact that persons who are servile and are proficient in what is ordinarly known as ' crow-catching ' get a good report from the officers and not persons who are really intelligent and earnest in their work? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' It depends upon the superior officers concerned. Some superior officers, as a matter of fact, make adverse remarks because of the habit of ' crow-catching ' on the part of the subordinates concerned. It depends upon the superior officer and not the subordinate official.''

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—'' May I know whether such files are maintained in any other country? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' They are maintained in many other countries.''

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—'' Since adverse remarks are not communicated to the persons concerned and their explanation sought, what is the detailed working of the system? ''

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" When the explanation is given and if it is found satisfactory, the adverse remarks are expunged."

SRI V. K. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that these adverse remarks are usually made when the superior officer is transferred and he does not remain bravely to face the consequences and that, therefore, there is really no opportunity for the subordinate official to prove malice? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" This is a periodical business, the files being written up every six months or every year. Therefore, there are opportunities for the official to prove malice, if really there is malice."

**SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM** :—" கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது நம்முடைய நாட்டில் ஜனநாயகத்தின்பேரால்கட்சி அரசியல்தான் நடைபெறுகிறது. சர்க்கார்களில் இருக்கக்கூடியவர்களும் கட்சி அரசியலில் உள்ளவர்களாகத்தான் இருக்கிறார்கள். சர்க்காரும் கட்சி அரசியலுக்கு அப்பார்ப்பட்டவர்கள் அல்ல. முந்திய சர்க்காருக்கு விரோதமாக சில சர்க்கார் அதிகாரிகள் இருந்தார்கள் என்ற காரணத்திற்காக இப்போதைய சர்க்கார் அவர்களைச் சாதகமாக நினைக்கலாமா? அதேபோல் (எதிர்காலத்தில்) இன்றைக்கு இருக்கக்கூடிய சர்க்காருக்கு எதிராக வரக்கூடிய சர்க்காரிடம் நடந்து கொண்டால் அவர்களுக்கு சலுகை அளிக்கப்படுவதா? ஆகவே அதிகாரத்தில் இருக்கக்கூடிய கட்சி தங்களுக்கு எதிராக இருக்கக்கூடிய கட்சியைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் என்று சந்தேகிக்கவோ அதிகாரிகளை தண்டிக்கவோ கூடாது. ஆகையால் இந்த ரகசிய பைல் முறை கைவிடப்படுமா என்பதை அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Even though the Government Members belong to a certain party, we are for the community as a whole. We do not function purely as partymen. Therefore, the question does not arise. Apart from this, these remarks are not made by Ministers, but by permanent officials who are supposed not to belong to any party whatsoever."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that in almost all cases, no reasonable opportunity is given to the employees to know about the adverse remarks made in their confidential files? My information, at any rate, is that no opportunity is given with the result that, in the matter of promotion, the junior officers suffer since, in this respect, they are at a disadvantage when the question of promotion arises? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have already said that whenever adverse remarks are made, they have got to be communicated to the officer concerned and his explanation obtained. His explanation, I may add, is also filed along with the personal file."

**SRI R. S. ARUMUGAM** :—" குறிப்பிட்ட சர்க்கார் சிப்பந்திகளுக்குத் தீமை விளைவிக்கவேண்டுமென்ற நோக்கத்தோடு சில அதிகாரிகள் பர்ஸனல் பைல்களில் குறிப்பிட்டிருப்பார்கள். அப்படிப்பட்ட பர்ஸனல் பைல்களைக் குறிப்பிட்ட சர்க்கார் சிப்பந்திகள் பார்க்க அனுமதிக்கப்படவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டால் அவைகள் அவர்களுக்குக் காட்டப்படுமா ? "

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The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No, Sir. Except in cases where adverse remarks are made, the files are not shown to the officers."

*Supply of electricity to Ginjee taluk.*

* 511 *Q.*—Sri K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the supply of electrical energy will be extended to Ginjee taluk, South Arcot district; and

(*b*) the names of the villages in the taluk that will get the electrical energy as per the approved scheme?

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) This is a part of a major scheme and is likely to be taken up in its turn, subject to availability of funds and materials.

" (*b*) The following villages in Ginjee taluk will be supplied with electricity as part of the scheme which covers areas in North Arcot as well :—

(1) Ginjee,

(2) Avalurpet,

(3) Kapalambadi, and

(4) Melamalayanur."

Sri K. ARANGANATHAN :—" The Hon. Minister while replying to the debate on the Budget said that electricity would be extended to the Ginjee taluk in 1954–55. I want to know what has happened to his promise? "

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have never said that it would be extended in 1954–55. There is no provision made in the Budget for this scheme and it has to await its turn which is likely to come in 1956–57."

Sri S. RAMALINGAM :—" உழைப்பாளர் கட்சியினர் காங்கிரஸ் கட்சியில் சேர்ந்திருப்பதால் இந்தத் திட்டத்திற்குப் பிரத்தியேக சலுகை காட்டப்படுமா ? "

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I do not see the relevancy of this question to the main question."

Sri K. PARTHASARATHY :—" The Hon. Minister said that the scheme would be executed in its turn. Will he state what are the schemes that will be taken up prior to this scheme? May I know the relative priority that will be given to this scheme?"

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I would commend to the hon. Member to come to my office where I can furnish him with the list of schemes that have been arranged in the order of priority."